

Otsego County Traffic Safety Board  
March 26, 2009  
242 Main Street  
Oneonta, NY 13820

Members present: Michael Adams, Cameron Allison, Michael Butler, Patricia Crispell, Richard Devlin, Timothy Jackson, Karen Liddle, Andrew Thomas and Ronald Tiderencel. Also present: Gary Leahy, Stephen Farago and Nicole Mauro.

Excused: Robert Barnes. Absent: Rodney Campbell, Raymond Freer

The meeting was called to order at 0900 by Sheriff Devlin.  
Minutes from the January 15, 2009 meeting were approved.

Sheriff Devlin reported that the local law governing the creation of the Otsego County Traffic Safety Board has been updated and was presented to and approved by the Board of Representatives on March 5. One change included that the number of members shall not be less than ten.

Sheriff Devlin reported that the Otsego County Traffic Safety Board has been added to the Otsego County web page: [traffic safety board @otsegocounty.com](http://traffic-safety-board@otsegocounty.com). Currently traffic statistics for the county are available only thru 2005. Sheriff Devlin reported that he hopes that updated mapping data can be added soon. This information will be obtained from Marybeth Vargha, GIS/IT.

Sheriff Devlin will draft by-laws and email to members to comment on.

A discussion of possible new members included asking Brian Pokorny, Butch Jones, and Diana Nichols to participate. New members need to have approval of the Public Safety Committee and then onto a resolution approved by the Otsego County Board.

With regard to fund raising, Sheriff Devlin reported that Article 43 requires any funds raised to go through the Treasurers office. He suggested that the Treasurer be asked to create a budget line in next year's budget for the Otsego County Traffic Safety Board. Sheriff Devlin suggested that rather than have a fundraiser, Mrs. Liddle apply for a 401 grant. Safe Routes to School, Car Fit and "Radar on a stick" were discussed.

The SADD (students against destructive decisions) run/walk was discussed. This will be held at Oneonta High School on Sunday April, 5. The DOH will be there and will have bicycle helmets for sale for \$5 and will provide education on proper wear. The DMV will have a driving simulator there and the rock climbing wall will also be there. The DOH has a supply of helmets. These are available for \$5. An appointment can be made by calling 607-547-6421.

The Otsego County DMV is planning to implement a young driver program. Each new driver will receive a packet of information. Their parent will have to watch a video, contracts will be signed. Parents will be made aware that they can rescind their child's ability to drive if they feel that their child is not driving responsibly. Mrs. Liddle will be meeting with Mrs. Sinnott-Gardner.

The Otsego County Traffic Safety Board unanimously voted to support Sheriff Devlin to approach the Traffic Safety Board to enact a no texting while driving law in Otsego County. The Sheriff admitted that enforcement of these types of laws is not always easy.

Sheriff Devlin reported that the Sheriff's office has received the new speed trailer. This is a smaller, totally mobile unit. It has the capability of also collecting valuable data. Mrs. Liddle reported that the DWI speed trailer is in need of repair. Mr. Tiderencel suggested it be taken to the county garage for the repairs.

Sheriff Devlin reported that his office will be initiating the "Stopped" program. Community education will be done shortly ( a press conference). This program allows parents to be notified in writing if their child (18 and younger) has been stopped for a traffic violation.

Mrs. Liddle reported that she still has a couple of GPS units. She will give a unit to the Sheriff's dept. and one to the Highway Dept.

The meeting was adjourned at 0945am.

**Next meeting: June 11, 2009 at 242 Main St. Oneonta at 9:00 am**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia C. Crispell